

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SECURE COMMUNICATIONS AMONG  
PORTABLE COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

**ABSTRACT**

A portable communication device (10) capable of operating in multiple modes includes a transceiver (38 and 44) and a processor (12) coupled to the transceiver. The processor can be programmed to establish (52) a symmetric traffic key in a first mode of communication between the portable communication device and a second portable communication device, switch (56) to at least a second mode of communication, and share (58) the symmetric traffic key between the portable communication device and the second multi-mode portable communication device in the second mode of communication.